Montana State Library

MONTANA LABOR MARKET

Monthly Review of EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK, LABOR SUPPLY, LABOR DEMAND, CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

MONTANA STATE EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

Division of Unemployment Compensation Commission of Montana

Albert F. Root, Commissioner

Wesley Castles, Chairman

Paul R. McClure, Commissioner

Mitchell Building - P. O. Box 1728 - Helena, Montana

FL-143

IANUARY 15, 1955

. 7 , 5

State Employment Figure Shows December Decline

Employment levels in Montana industries declined less than one percent from middeclined less than one percent from mid-November to mid-December and were nearly two percent below those of De-cember, 1953, estimates by the commission in cooperation with the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics indicate. Total of non-farm employment is set at 153,000, as compared with 154,300 in November and 155,800 in December, 1953. This was the first De-cember since 1949 to show an employment decline from that of the preceding year decline from that of the preceding year.

Mostly in Mines and Railroads

Two major industries account for the deficit from a year ago. Metal mining is down 1,500 and interstate railroads reflect a decline of 1,400 in employment from a a decline of 1,400 in employment from a year ago. These changes are attributable to the recent work stoppage in metals, from which full recovery has not yet been made, and to technological changes leading to long-range reduction in train crews, shop and roundhouse men, and maintenance requirements on the rail systems.

Retail Trades in Sympathy

Employment in retail trade shows a loss of 600 from year-ago figures, concentrated in the general merchandise and apparel classification with its 800 decline, partly offset by gains of 100 each in food stores and restaurants. The general merchant employment is affected by decline in employment is affected by decline in employment. ment in the producing and transporting industries.

Manufacturing Fairly Stable

Manufacturing employment is estimated Manufacturing employment is estimated at 17,900, a mere 100 below that of a year ago. Within that class primary metals processing and petroleum products each show a gain of 100 over the year period, while food processing is down 100 and furniture, stone and clay products 200. These changes are too slight to be indicative of trend.

Gains in Four Industries

On the credit side of the estimates an increase of 300 is shown in construction, 200 in finance, insurance and real estate, 200 in industrial service establishments, and 700 in government. The construction item reflects a widespread continuation of building operations during prevalance of open weather and is a reduction in seasonal lay-offs rather than an increase in employment totals. The finance class is a steadily growing employment factor, with a record of slow advance over many years past. Service industries likewise are continuing a longtime upward trend.

December 1,300 Below November

The decline of 1,300 in December from November is largely a seasonal measurement, affected by construction with a 1,-400 shrinkage, lumber and timber products

(Continued on Page Two)

UPWARD TREND OF STATE LABOR SUPPLY SLACKENS IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER

Montana's supply of job-seeking labor increased by 3,000 during December, from 5,600 to 8,600, as the state's seasonal industries declined in employment. Winter layoffs and reductions in force which began in October increased in depth during December and and reductions in force which began in October increased in depth during December and should reach their ultimate seasonal level during January. Construction, logging and lumbering, railroad maintenance, Christmas tree harvest, and sugar refineries all contributed to the growing surplus of labor in the labor markets of the state, served by 21 operating offices of the employment service.

December Margin Only Nine Percent Above Year Ago

The margin of labor supply over labor demand during 1954 was consistently greater than in 1953, but the difference was substantially less in December and November than in any of the ten months preceding. On a percentage basis the margin was 16 points above the 1953 supply in January, a margin which spread to 48 percent in April, eased to 43 in May, 28 in June, and 32 in July, then zoomed to 70, 65, and 50 during the three following months, aggravated by prevalence of a work stoppage in the metal mining and processing industries. November pulled the margin down to 11 points and December ended the year with only nine points above December of last year.

WORK-APPLICANT COUNT IN REVIEW

| | 1954 | 1953 | 1952 | 1951 | 1950 | 1949 |
|-----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| January | 12,270 | 10,616 | 10,370 | 11,685 | 18,048 | 11,768 |
| February | | 10,995 | 10,136 | 12,336 | 18,556 | 13,097 |
| March | 11,075 | 9,323 | 9,392 | 10,844 | 16,085 | 12,484 |
| April | 8,945 | 6,043 | 5,705 | 7,048 | 11,435 | 8,268 |
| May | 6,191 | 4,324 | 3,276 | 4,312 | 6,755 | 4,912 |
| June | 5,403 | 3,910 | 2,957 | 4,240 | 5,809 | 4,331 |
| July | 4,283 | 3,249 | 2,191 | 3,260 | 3,920 | 3,864 |
| August | 3,519 | 2,069 | 1,619 | 2,370 | 2,898 | 3,320 |
| September | 3,782 | 2,288 | 1,388 | 2,304 | 2,578 | 3,523 |
| October | 4,038 | 2,688 | 1,955 | 2,572 | 3,179 | 4,519 |
| November | 5,617 | 5,048 | 4,135 | 4,341 | 5,349 | 6,551 |
| December | 8,613 | 7,932 | 7,517 | 6,694 | 8,329 | 10,732 |

Surplus Ranges Above 1952 Figures

An even greater disparity is apparent in comparison with two years ago. April of 1954 showed a 57 percent margin of jobseekers over April of 1952. During the three following months the margin ranged about 90 percent higher than its correspond-ing month in 1952, then more than double during the metal work stoppage. The year ended on a calmer level with a modest 36 point difference in November, and 15 points up in December.

Releases About Normal in December

Nearly all outdoor employment diminishes on a traditional, seasonal, pattern in December, funneling new supplies of un-employment labor into a market which has but few outlets to offer. This shrinkage containues into January and levels off in Febdumped into the labor market the figures for December are closely parallel to those of preceding Decembers.

Heaviest at Butte, Kalispell

Butte and Kalispell led in December jobseeker increase over November, with 550 at cach. Billings gained 360, Missoula 250, Helena 195. Other office areas showed gains of from 118 at Glendive, 116 at Shelby, and 111 at Polson down to 36 at Livingston and 18 at Dillon.

Missoula Below Year Ago

Compared with year ago figures there were fewer jobseekers in December at Missoula by 326, Great Falls 82, Kalispell 71, Polson 11, Cut Bank 8 and Livingston 5. At all other offices December had more work-applicants than December of 1953, with the heaviest increases at Butte, Billings, Wolf Point, Havre, and Helena.

Sales Forces Being Reduced

Employment in circles of trade and service and in postal work is in process of deflation following a substantial holiday upsurge. Releases from these sources will reflect into January count of jobseekers.

Big Building Projects Continue

Prospects are that construction layoffs will be less complete this year than normal. The aluminum plant in the Flathead country is maintaining large winter crews, about 1,100 at latest reports, though its excava-tion contract has been completed and about 400 are out of work from that source. Tiber dam construction in Liberty county closed down in December for about three months, due to excessive cost of operating in winter temperatures. At Billings, Bozeman, Helena, and other points where building projects have reached an enclosed stage substantial crews are being maintained on finishing work.

(Continued on Page Three)

Along the Hiring Line—Field Summary Jan. 1

ANACONDA, Deer Lodge, Philipsburg—(160 jobseekers; 85 men, 75 women; 26 men and 16 women over 45) Hiring in this community's single big industry, the smelter, was slow in December; crews have not yet been built up to full schedule as maintained before the August-October work stoppage. Building construction is practically at a standstill, largely seasonal, and farm demand is likewise at low ebb. Employment in trade and service was up through the holiday season, dwindling rapidly at the beginning of 1955.

BILLINGS, Columbus, Hardin, Hysham, Laurel, Red Lodge, Roundup—(1,074 jobseekers; 841 men, 233 women; 267 men and 72 women over 45) Only active labor demand in December was for postal extras; trade and service had fully staffed in November for the holiday season and held steady until the close of the year. Construction was relatively high in employment but new hires were few. Normal winter curtailment in that line is due. The sugar plant at Billings finished its season run, releasing about 550 workers, the plant at Hardin had already ended its fall processing of sugar beets.

BOZEMAN, Ennis, Three Forks, Trident—(285 jobseekers; 179 men, 106 women; 14 men over 45) Construction contractors continued at nearly full pace through December, with little turnover or new hiring. A new road project is starting, to use 35 men through the winter. Two dormitory projects are enclosed and will maintain finishing crews, about 15 released. No other employment developments in sight. Trade and service industries reducing their payrolls after the holiday season.

BUTTE, Virginia City, Whitehall—(1,085 jobseekers; 728 men, 357 women; 281 men and 101 women over 45) Hiring at the mines is fairly active with opening for 100 additional qualified miners. Return of former miners from summer employment in outdoor work continues. Retail trade employment was up for the holiday season, declining to normal winter level at the end of the month. Construction activity limited to inside work, new store building finished and a building material plant in process of reactivation. Farm demand is negligible.

CUT BANK—(140 jobseekers; 119 men, 21 women; 35 men and 4 women over 45) Labor supply consists largely of oil field workers, truck drivers, rough carpenters and service workers. Construction activity was in a lull during the holidays but is resuming and will continue through the winter as weather permits. A test well is starting near the base of the Rockies, employing about ten men. Oil production has not previously been established in that area.

DILLON—(83 jobseckers; 53 men, 30 women; 17 men and 5 women over 45)

About 20 men employed on the city sewer and garbage disposal plant, eight on a new road project toward Jackson, ten more will be added shortly. Six new homes are scheduled to be begun in January. Oil drilling proceeds at two points in the county. Farm demand is slight, open weather defers feeding activities.

GLASGOW, Fort Peck, Malta, Opheim—(318 jobseekers; 264 men, 54 women; 76 men and 18 women over 45) More hiring in December than a year ago, for continuation of housing projects, a theatre and filling station, and for seismograph crews working in the area. City water tank nearly completed. Farm demand slight, but normal. Layoffs beginning with the new year, on seasonal pattern.

GLENDIVE, Circle, Wibaux—(123 jobseekers; 89 men, 34 women; 21 men and 3 women over 45) Construction shutting down for the winter, skilled crews are last off duty; no new jobs starting. Oil pipe project and terminals completed. Heavy retail trade hiring for the holidays, correspondingly heavy layoffs now occurring. Farm labor demand slight, feeding postponed by good weather.

GREAT FALLS, Choteau, Fort Benton, Stanford—(957 jobseekers; 734 men, 223 women: 262 men and 50 women over 45) No labor shortages in December, though hiring for retail trade and for increased postal traffic was in generous measure. About 70 extras for the post office and nearly as many temporary sales workers are now being released. No mass layoffs in construction as yet. Prospect for spring program includes home building, airbase housing and facility construction, and several large commercial and industrial structures planned. Extensive street repair contracts will help absorb present surplus, but not until spring.

HAMILTON, Stevensville— (246 jobseekers; 175 men, 71 women; 60 men and 32 women over 45) Sharp increase in the applicant file here followed closing of three sawmills for the winter period and reduc-

State Employment Figure Shows December Decline

(Continued from Page One)

500, food processing, principally sugar refineries handling the beet crop, 500, transportation and utilities 300 down, and hotels, rooming houses and camps a loss of 200 in employment. Partially offsetting these are November to December increases: 1,000 in retail trade employment, 900 in government, largely for handling holiday mail volume, and 100 in finance, insurance and real estate, also affected by holiday volume.

Demand for More Miners

Mining shows a dip of 100 in its employment from November. This is due to scarcity of qualified applicants rather than to economic lethargy.

tion of force on construction projects. About 15 Hamilton workers returned from their seasonal timber work at Superior. Demand for extra help in stores, shops and postal work about 50 percent below that of a year ago. Crew of ten engaged on bridge and road jobs for about 60 days. Sorting of potatoes for market to start in January, will provide employment for limited number.

IIAVRE, Chinook, Harlem — (216 jobseckers; 186 men, 30 women; 8 men and 5 women over 45) Less transient labor in the area than normal. Railroad and government hiring is not up to recent years. Employment outlook extremely poor for 90 days, a seasonal rather than economic condition. All branches of industry are contributing to the increasing labor supply.

IPELENA, Boulder, Garrison, Townsend, White Sulphur Springs—(492 jobseekers; 423 men, 69 women; 135 men and 20 women over 45) Work continues with reduced crews on two larger construction enterprises, state laboratory and high school. Heavy layoffs indicate most other construction has ceased for the winter. Hiring was active in clerical, trade, and service lines and for the post office, in December but force reductions occurred at the end of the smelters, no appreciable hiring. Brick plant is down to winter crew.

KALISPELL, Columbia Falls, Eureka, Libby, Whitefish — (1,002 jobseekers; 835 men, 167 women; 307 men and 51 women over 45) December labor supply swelled by layoffs in construction, logging and lumbering, Christmas tree harvest, and late in the month from holiday employment in trade and service. Excavation contract at aluminum plant in Columbia Falls finished in December, releasing 500 workers, about 100 of whom were absorbed in other phases of the multimillion dollar project. Work continuing there, partly under cover, so long as weather conditions permit.

LEWISTOWN, Harlowton, Ryegate, Winnett—(215 jobseekers; 149 men, 66 women; 40 men and 24 women over 45) Construction layoffs began in December and no new projects are starting. Road job toward new Missouri bridge now using about 40 workers and the contractor hopes no winter layoff will become necessary. A chain store branch closed Christmas, releasing 15, other trade establishments are reducing force. Labor supply more than ample.

LIVINGSTON, Big Timber — (261 jobseekers; 180 men, 81 women; 61 men and 17 women over 45) Construction slowed down in December, in anticipation of severe weather. One road job continues, city is drilling three new water wells, and several homes are proceeding with full construction crews. Railroad prospect dark, though no additional layoffs have occurred in shops or roundhouse. Extra gang and bridge and building crews are scaled down to a minimum. Trade hiring was brisk in December, released extra workers after Christmas.

(Continued on Page Three)

EIGHT YEARS OF MONTANA INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT TOTALS, BY MONTHS (in Thousands)

| | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Арг. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Aver. |
|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1947 | 127.8 | 127.6 | 128.6 | 130.6 | 134.8 | 138.0 | 142,0 | 142,0 | 141.0 | 141.6 | 141.2 | 141.7 | 136.4 |
| 1948 | 134.4 | 132.0 | 133.2 | 137.1 | 140.6 | 145.8 | 148.9 | 150.3 | 151.4 | 149.6 | 149.4 | 147.7 | 143.4 |
| 1949 | 137.1 | 135.5 | 137.7 | 144.0 | 147.3 | 151.0 | 150.0 | 150.1 | 149.8 | 148.2 | 146.1 | 143.3 | 145.0 |
| 1950 | 133.2 | 132.2 | 135.2 | 142.1 | 147.3 | 153.6 | 154.9 | 157.1 | 156.8 | 152.2 | 150.7 | 148.8 | 147.0 |
| 1951 | 141.9 | 139.4 | 140.3 | 145.9 | 149.4 | 154.1 | 153.5 | 154.6 | 154.3 | 152.4 | 151.7 | 150.6 | 149.0 |
| 1952 | 140.5 | 140.7 | 143.0 | 149.7 | 154.8 | 159.9 | 159.5 | 161,2 | 160.4 | 157.9 | 156.0 | 154.9 | 153.2 |
| 1953 | 145.8 | 144.5 | 146.2 | 149.8 | 153.7 | 158.2 | 160.1 | 160.4 | 161.5 | 159.8 | 156.7 | 155.8 | 154.4 |
| 1954 | 146.9 | 145.7 | 146.9 | 149.6 | 153.3 | 158.6 | 158.2 | 158.6 | 152.0 | 150.9 | 154.3 | 153.0 | 152.3 |

Along the Hiring Line-Field Summary Jan. 1

(Continued from Page Two)

MILES CITY, Baker, Broadus, Ekalaka, Forsyth, Colstrip, Terry—(282 jobseekers; 230 men, 52 women; 65 men and 19 women over 45) Normal seasonal decline in employment featured labor market developments in December, but demand was stronger than in December a year ago. At the close of the month agriculture, construction, railroad, and retail trade employment was on a reduced scale.

MISSOULA, Drummond, Arlee, Superior, Thompson Falls—(805 jobseekers; 595 men. 210 women: 196 men and 53 women over 45) Seasonal trend of employment was manifest through December, despite open weather. Construction has slowed up. Logging and lumber continue with near-full crews, but no new hiring. At Superior the night crew was laid off and loggers were brought out of the woods. Claims volume is below that of a year ago.

POLSON, Hot Springs—(286 jobseekers; 248 men, 38 women; 75 men and 11 women over 45) A seasonal pattern prevails in emover 45) A seasonal pattern prevaits in employment circles. Last of crews on third unit of power plant finished their jobs and are off duty. Two buildings under way at the plywood plant, will be completed during the winter. The plant is expected to open in April. A new road contract may start operations in January.

SHELBY, Chester, Conrad, Tiber Dam—(244 jobseekers; 213 men, 31 women; 10 men and 1 woman over 45) Labor market activities in this field are increased over a year ago. Construction work continues in Shelby with but slight decline in number employed. In Pondera county construction outfits have closed for the winter. Tiber Dam contractors halted on December 11, expect to re-open March 15.

UPWARD TREND OF STATE LABOR

(Continued from Page One)

Metal Mining Has Labor Demand

Metal mining, and to a lesser extent metal processing, is not yet fully recovered in employment volume from the work stoppage of early fall. Demand for experienced and qualified underground workers marks that industry as one of the few entering upon an expanding employment basis at the beginning of the new year. Smelter employment is more nearly up to its normal level, with scattered hiring reported in De-

Highway Employment Same as Year Ago

State highway employment in December totalled 1,000, the same as a year ago and about 200 below the November figure. Of these, 300 were on contractor payrolls, engaged in contracts covering 110 miles of highway and a million dollars in bridge jobs. Maintenance and repair by the state commission employed 700.

Backlog of Work for Spring

Work was suspended during December on a number of road and bridge projects on which work had begun. Other contracts were awarded which likewise were not yet underway. Total of this backlog, much of which will remain dormant until spring, includes 184 miles of road improvement, and bridge contracts in the sum of \$1,400,000.

SIDNEY—(148 jobseekers: 128 men. 20 women; 41 men and 4 women over 45) Scasonal decline of employment here about normal. Sugar plant is nearing finish of its season run. Church building crew still at work. Active file contains many skilled and semi-skilled from building trades, with no prospect of extensive work until spring. Trade hiring for holidays about normal.

WOLF POINT, Plentywood, Scobey— (191 jobseekers; 163 men, 28 women; 21 men and 6 women over 45) Some construction projects enclosed, will employ limited crews through winter. Oil field workers in jobsecker list more numerous than a year ago, huilding craftsmen fewer. Ranches are not calling for labor, stock feeding deferred by favorable weather.

ESTIMATED EMPLOYMENT IN NON-AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES IN MONTANA (1)

(Produced in co-operation with United States Bureau of Labor Statistics)

| | EN | PLOYME | NT | Net C | hange |
|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| INDUSTRY | Des. 1954 (2) | Nov. 1954 (3) | Dec. 1953 | Nov. '54 to Dec. '54 | Dec. '53 to Dec. '54 |
| NONAGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES | 153,000 | 154,300 | 155,800 | -1,300 | 2,800 |
| Manufacturing | 17,900 | 19,000 | 18,000 | 1,100 | 100 |
| Durable goods | 10,100 | 10,700 | 10,200 | — 600 | 100 |
| Lumber and timber products Primary metals Other (4) | 5,400 3,700 1,000 | 3,700 | 3,600 | $\begin{bmatrix} - & 500 \\ 0 \\ - & 100 \end{bmatrix}$ | 0 100 — 200 |
| Nondurable goods | 7,800 4,000 1,600 2,200 | 4,500 1,600 | 4,100 1,600 | - 500 | - 100 0 |
| Mining | 10,600 7,200 1,000 2,400 | 7,300 1,000 | 8,700 1,000 | 0 | -1,700 -1,500 0 - 200 |
| Contract construction Contractors, building construction Contractors, other than building Contractors, special trade | 8,400 3,000 2,100 3,300 | 3,600 2,700 | 3, 1 00 2,200 | — 600 — 600 | — 1 00 |
| Transportation and utilities | 20,800 12,000 3,500 5,300 | 12,400 3,400 | 13,400 3,700 | $-\frac{400}{100}$ | _ 200 |
| Trade Wholesale trade | 40,200 8,700 31,500 6,300 4,500 7,600 5,800 7,300 | 8,900 30,500 5,400 4,500 7,700 5,900 | 8,700 32,100 7,100 4,400 7,500 5,800 | $ \begin{array}{c c} -200 \\ 1,000 \\ 900 \\ 0 \\ -100 \\ -100 \end{array} $ | $ \begin{array}{c c} - & 600 \\ - & 800 \\ 100 \\ 100 \\ 0 \end{array} $ |
| Finance, insurance and real estate | 5,200 | 5,100 | 5,000 | 100 | 200 |
| Services and miscellaneous | 19,400 3,200 2,200 14,000 | 3,400 2,200 | 3,100 2,200 | 200 | 100 |
| Government | 30,500 | 29,700 | 29,800 | 800 | 700 |
| Great Falls Area (Cascade County) | 14,800 | 14,600 | 14,800 | 200 | C |
| Manufacturing Transportation and utilities Tradc Services and miscellaneous (7) | 2,700 2,400 6,300 3,400 | 2,500 6,100 | 6,200 | — 100 200 | $-\frac{200}{100}$ |

(1) Estimates include all full and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period ending nearest the 15th of the month. Proprietors, firm members, personnel of the armed forces, domestic servants, and self-employed persons are excluded.

(2) Preliminary estimates based on return from sample of 730 selected Montana establishments.

(3) Figures previously released have been revised on returns from 921 such establishments.

(4) Includes fabricated metal products, machinery except electrical, furniture, stone and clay products.

(5) Includes apparel, chemicals, petroleum, and miscellaneous manufacturing products.

(6) Includes commercial trade schools, auto repair services and garages, miscellaneous repair services and hand trades, motion pictures, amusements and recreation, medical and health, law offices and professional services, nonprofit membership organizations and business not otherwise classified.

(7) Same as (6) above, also includes finance, insurance, real estate and mining.

COMPARISON OF BASIC LABOR MARKET TRANSACTIONS IN DECEMBER, 1954, AND DECEMBER, 1953

| Employment | New Job Applicants | | | Jobseekers in File | | | Job Placements | | | | | | | U. I. Claims | | | | |
|------------|---|---|--|---|---|-----------------|---|---|---|---------------|---|---|--|-------------------|---|--|--|---|
| Service | Dec. | 1954 | Dec. | Dec. 1953 | | Dec. 1954 | | Dec. 1953 | | December 1954 | | | | December 1953 | | | Week 1-7 | |
| Office | Tot. | Vet. | Tot. | Vet. | Tot. | Vet. | Tot. | Vet. | Ind. | Ag. | Tot. | Vet. | Ind. | Ag. | Tot. | Vet. | 1955 | 1954 |
| Anaconda | 75 538 128 376 66 65 96 137 443 83 105 266 336 128 98 261 97 119 102 148 | 29) 203 51 102 36 23 39) 105 30 44, 109 102 46 57 41 79 37 50 29 51 | 65 637 141 371 88 98 192 136 559 56 146 182 446 112 111 182 314 108 | 28 220 73 39 50 48 47 26 171 19 52 103 156 34 31 79 100 10 18 37 | 160 1,074 285 1,085 140 83 318 123 957 246 216 492 215 261 282 825 825 244 148 191 | | 1,073 189 266 269 1,132 297 95 119 | 63 24 97 33 391 71 75 181 415 73 421 421 34 26 | 22 43 93 121 165 15 75 114 53 32 41 | 27 | 115 414 216 289 222 80 116 148 226 19 89 142 62 45 55 102 155 10 54 61 40 | 252 79 109 13 32 40 55 104 4 4 4 33 80 35 22 21 36 78 4 30 23 | 73 222 202 182 111 57 55 107 193 34 103 124 79 16 56 30 238 9 9 9 35 49 | 5 49 26 | 182 16 86 76 130 245 37 115 148 81 28 | 40 8 20 20 38 99 10 48 75 57 8 27 23 | 213 637/ 140/ 700/ 249/ 183 779/ 218/ 227/ 360/ 821/ 189/ 344/ 285/ 699/ 323/ 159/ 168/ | 150 921 283 683 113 69 164 95 955 243 141 404 1,409 197 318 289 879 453 124 103 132 |
| TOTALS | 3,790 | 1,313 | 4,231 | 1,384 | 8,613 | 2,996 | 7, 932 | 2,786 | 2,082 | 378 | 2,460 | 1,098 | 1,901 | 346 | 2,247 | 821 | 7,658 | 8,125 |

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN SELECTED MONTANA INDUSTRIES

(Produced in co-operation with United States Bureau of Labor Statistics) (Hours and earnings data exclude administrative and salaried personnel)

| | Average | Weekly 1 | Carnings | Averag | e Weekly | Hours | Average Hourly Earnings | | | |
|---|------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------------------|------------------|--------------|--|
| INDUSTRY | Dec. (1) 1954 | Nov. (2) 1954 | Dec. 1953 | Dec. (1) 1954 | Nov. (2) 1954 | Dec. 1953 | Dec. (1) 1954 | Nov. (2) 1954 | Dec. 1953 | |
| All Manufacturing | \$80.16 | \$80.20 | \$81.54 | 40.0 | 40.0 | 41.5 | 2.00 | 2.01 | 1.96 | |
| Durable goodsPrimary metals | 78.70 74.85 | 78.17 75.00 | 83.08 91.34 | 39.3 38.8 | 39.0 38.8 | 41.5 45.4 | 2.00 1.93 | 2.01 1.94 | 2.00 2.01 | |
| Nondurable goodsFood and kindred products | 82.37 76.42 | 83.12 74.78 | 79.34 69.82 | 41.1 44.4 | 41.5 43.7 | 41.5 44.0 | 2.01 1.72 | 2.00 1.71 | 1.91 1.59 | |
| All Mining | 89.63 | 84.51 | 95.97 | 41.0 | 39.1 | 43.2 | 2.19 | 2.16 | 2.22 | |
| Metal mining | 89.51 | 79.58 | 96.54 | 41.2 | 37.9 | 43.8 | 2.17 | 2.10 | 2.20 | |
| Transportation and Utilities (except railrds.). | 80.54 | 78.53 | 77.67 | | | | | | | |
| Transportation (except railrds) | 92.16 75.14 | 93.04 71.79 | 90.66 71.68 | 40.6 | 39.4 | 41.2 | 1.85 | 1.82 | 1.74 | |

(1) Preliminary estimates. (2) Figures previously released have been revised on more complete returns.

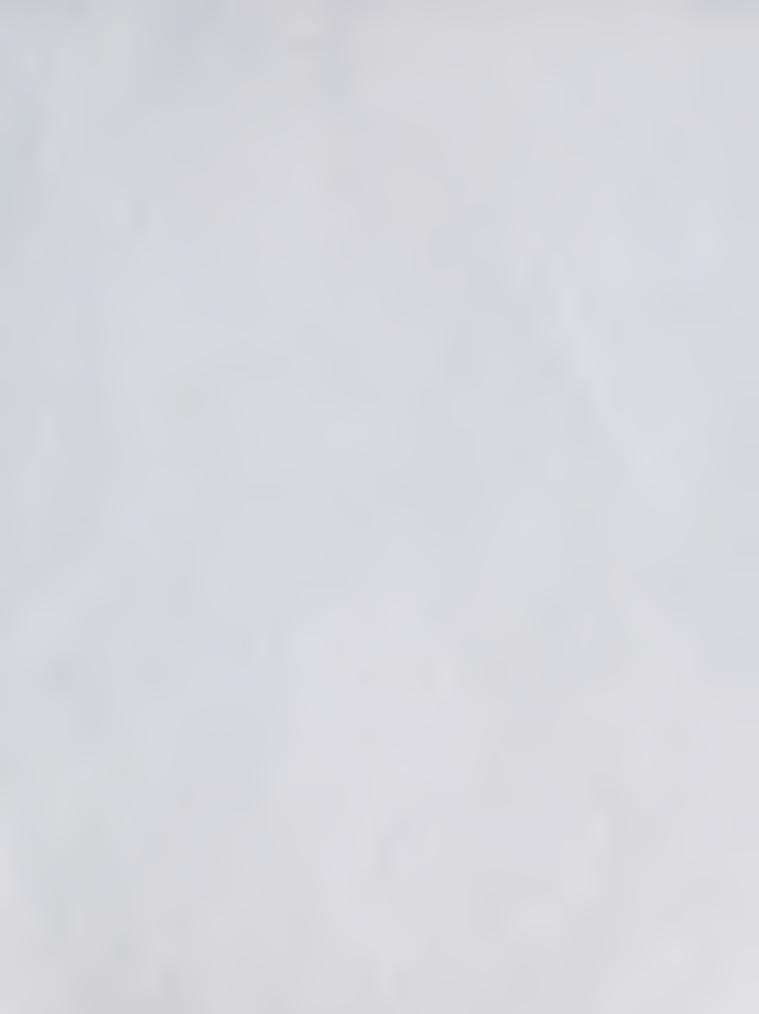
UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION COMMISSION OF MONTANA

MITCHELL BUILDING
P. O. Box 1728
HELENA, MONTANA

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

President
Montana School of Mines
Butte, Montana

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL United States Postage Accounted for Under Act of Congress Per. 35.4 (P) (1), P. L. & R.



Montana State Library